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V.—*On the Dead Sea and some Positions in Syria.*

IN the month of March, 1837, Mr. G. H. Moore and Mr. W. G. Beek, having made the necessary preparations and procured a good boat, left *Beïrut* in a small coasting vessel for Jaffa, their intention being to make a trigonometrical survey of the Dead Sea, to ascertain its depth, and to procure collections of all that could be of use to science. From Jaffa they conveyed their boat, stores, &c., to the Dead Sea, passing through Jerusalem and descending on Jericho ; a work of great labour, considering that they had no assistance from the authorities, but rather the contrary. After surveying a great portion of the shores, these gentlemen were obliged to abandon their work, the guards and guides declaring they would not proceed. The width of the sea has been established beyond a doubt ; soundings also have been taken showing great depth, in some parts upwards of 300 fathoms. The length of this sea is much less than is generally supposed. There appears also to be another remarkable feature in the level of the sea, as from several observations upon the temperature of boiling water, it appears to be considerably lower than the ocean. Mr. Moore has been down to Egypt to procure a firman from the Pasha to enable him to continue the survey, and has returned to Syria, but nothing is yet known of his success. Mr. Beek has been obliged to return to Europe on account of the influence of the climate on his health ; but as soon as these two gentlemen meet in England, or when Mr. Moore has completed the work, should he be fortunate enough to succeed, an account of the whole will be laid before the public. In the mean time we are happy in being enabled to give a few results of observations for latitude made by these gentlemen on a former journey ; that of Petra is, we believe, the first observation on record for that place :

Convent on Mount Sinai	.	.	28° 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ N.
Akaba Fort	.	.	29 32
Petra	.	.	30 19
Hebron	.	.	31 31 $\frac{1}{2}$
Jerusalem	.	.	31 45 $\frac{3}{4}$
Jeraish	.	.	32 16 $\frac{1}{2}$
Jaffa	.	.	32 4 $\frac{1}{2}$

From some rough observations, Jeraish was found to be 2000 feet, and Jerusalem 2600 feet above the level of the Mediterranean.

